

OTTAWA HOME computing

The Newsletter of the
Ottawa Home
Computing Club

Vol. 8 No. 6

January
1992

Serving the Amiga Apple, Commodore, Macintosh and MS-Dos Computers

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR



BONNE
ANNÉE

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OTTAWA HOME COMPUTING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Ottawa Home Computing Club is open to all who have a genuine interest in home computing. The \$25 annual membership fee entitles members to:

- attend monthly meetings
- buy Club disks
- receive the Club newsletter
- participate in election of the executive
- participate in any other activities.
- full sign-on privileges on Club's BBS

CLUB EXECUTIVE

Elected Positions:

- President: Pierre Castricum, 830-6984
- Vice-Pres: Don White, 829-2082
- Secretary: Gerry Bouchard, 731-0920
- Treasurer: Lloyd Wright, 731-8408
- Prog. Co-ordinator: Bob Greenberg, 225-3698

Librarians:

- Amiga: Don White, 829-2082
- Apple: Wojta Fryzek, 722-9778
- C-64: Keith Baker, 592-9509
- C-128/CP/M: Bob Thomas, 820-6835
- MS-DOS:
 - 3 1/2 Ray Monette, 722-1204
 - 5 1/4 Hans Hageraats, 1-257-4158
- Windows 3.0: Terry Hicks, 591-9959

Other Positions:

- Membership: Susan Greenberg, 225-3698
- Bulletin Board SYSP: Pierre Castricum, 830-6984
- Retail Disk Distribution: Gerry Bouchard, 731-0920
- Newsletter Editor: Ray Monette, 722-1204
- Director at Large: Scotty Adams, 592-3492

OHCC Bulletin Board 226-8952

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Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4P3

MEETINGS

Club meetings are held monthly at Confederation High School (Woodroffe Ave.

beside the Nepean Sportsplex), usually the third Monday of the month. Upcoming meetings are scheduled as follows:

Jan. 13*, Feb. 17, Mar. 9*
Apr. 13*, May 11*, June 8*
July and August to be announced ...

An * beside a date indicates that the meeting is not on the third Monday of that month.

Meeting format is standard (see "Club Notes" for specific details on the upcoming meeting), and the format is:

- 7:00 Membership registration, Disk of the Month sales, socialization
 - 7:30 Business Meeting
 - 7:45 Main Presentation
 - 8:30 Special Interest Group meetings
- Special Interest Groups (SIG) are the best places to ask your questions, offer suggestions to the Club's executive and meet members who have the same computer as you do. You may even catch a demo of the latest software:
- Apple/Mac—Auditorium Scotty Adams
 - C64/Disk of Month—Room 117 or Keith Baker
 - Amiga—Room 128 Don White & Peter Martin
 - C128 & CP/M—Room 119 Bob Thomas
 - MS-DOS—Room 115
 - C64 Beginners—Room 118 Pierre Castricum

OTTAWA HOME COMPUTING

Ottawa Home Computing is the Newsletter of the Ottawa Home Computing Club, and is mailed free of charge to members in good standing. Ottawa Home Computing is published 10 times a year.

Submissions to Ottawa Home Computing are most welcome. The preferred method of submission is by uploading your text file to the Club's BBS (see the "Readme" file in that area for instructions). If you don't have a modem, the next best method would be on a disk. Contact the editor regarding formats.

Classified ads of personal items (up to 25 words) are free to members. For more

information on commercial advertising, please contact the Advertising Manager.

Newsletter staff:

- Amiga: *vacant*
- Apple/Mac: Mike Bryan, 226-5588
- MS-DOS: Bonnie Carter 747-7660
- Advertising Manager: *vacant*

Address all correspondence to:
Raymond Monette
1260 Emperor Ave.
Ottawa, Ontario K1Z 8C5

ORDERING DISKS:

The O.H.C.C. charges a nominal fee for the disks & duplication service as follows:

- \$4 for 5 1/4 inch single disk;
- \$5 for 3 1/2 inch single disk;
- \$3 per disk for 5 1/4 multi disk set;
- \$4 per disk for 3 1/2 multi disk set;
- \$6 per disk for non-members.

Only a few duplicated disks of every program are kept on hand. We strongly suggest that you call your librarian to order disks in advance of Club's meetings.

Disclaimer:

To the best of our knowledge, all the programs in the O.H.C.C. libraries are public domain or shareware programs and are free of viruses. We encourage you to support the shareware concept by sending suggested donation to the author. The O.H.C.C. makes NO guarantee of the performance of the software in all libraries and assumes no liability of any kind. All software in the library is used at the purchaser's cost and own risk. If a disk is found to be defective, it will be replaced at no extra charge.

C64 DISK OF THE MONTH RETAIL SALES

The C64 Disk of the Month is carried in the following stores. It sells for about \$4.50 and is available two days after each meeting.

Ali Computers	
1158 Ogilvie Rd.	744-0220
111 Colonnade Rd.	224-0899
Compucentre	
Carlingwood Plaza	729-0448



Minutes of Executive Meeting 9 Dec. 91.
by Ray Monette

Pierre Casticum called the meeting to order at 7:30.

REPORTS:

President- Pierre introduced to the executive, Bob and Susan Greenberg as the new Program Co-Ordinator and Membership Chairman. He also told us that Don White will be acting Vice President until the next election. Pierre talked about the World of Commodore that was held in Toronto.

Membership- Lucien said he is going down South for about 3 weeks, and then packing for the move up North to Sudbury area. He also mentioned that the current membership stands at 212 members with approximately 43 not yet renewed.

Amiga- Peter Martin talked about last Saturday demo for gifted childrens. He also mentioned that Gerry Paquette will be in the Amiga SIG this coming meeting.

Treasurer- Lloyd talked about the club financial statement as of the month of November, things are looking up.

"MEMBERSHIP FEES GOING UP TO \$30 AS OF 1 FEB. 92".

Newsletter- I mentioned to the Executive that changes will be done to the club Newsletter in the coming months, they all agreed. I also told them that I'm very low on articles for the newsletter.

Note:

Picture for this month's Newsletter was
supplied to me by Bonnie Fortier.
Thanks Bonnie.

CLUB NOTES

By Ray Monette

President's Corner

by Pierre Casticum

First of all, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year; it is my hope that 1992 will prove to be a very good year for all of you in all your endeavours.

The December meeting was held even though Mother Nature provided one of this year's worst snow storms. I together with a few dozen souls braved the wintery weather in order to attend the meeting. What was supposed to be a night devoted to Special Interest Groups ended with a presentation relating to animation with the AMIGA 3000.

On behalf of the club, I would like to again thank Gerry Paquene (coordinator of the Animation Programme at Algonquin College) for an excellent presentation.

Bob Greenberg, the club's new programme coordinator, has been quite busy lining up speakers & demonstrations for upcoming meetings. More information on this subject will be announced shortly.

Thank you for your support during 1991! See you at the meeting.

PROGRAM FOR :TUESDAY, JAN.13, 1992

by Bob Greenberg

**Mr. Brian Cribb,
an Account Manager
for Microsoft Canada Inc.,
will be speaking to the club
on DOS 5.0 and Windows 3.0
(if time permits).**

**Your attendants at this time,
would be welcome and enjoyed.**

Virus Warning!

by Glen Larwill

Reprint from November 91, BIG BLUE and Cousins Newsletter.

VIRUS-L

A new, fast moving, and very destructive virus has been reported from multiple countries in Eastern Europe. The virus uses a completely new technique for infecting and replicating and it cannot be easily identified or removed with existing anti-virus removers.

The virus infects by first placing itself in the last cluster of host disks. It then modifies the directory entries for all executable files in the system so that the directory chains point to the virus. Then encrypts the original pointers for the executable files and places the encrypted pointers in unused space within the directory area. The result of this is that whenever a program is executed, the virus is loaded into memory. The virus, in turn, loads the program for execution. Programs themselves are not modified.

A disruptive characteristic of this virus is that if an infected system is booted from a clean floppy, none of the executable files can be copied from the system. Neither can they be backed up. If the system is not booted from a clean floppy, then the files can be copied and backed up, but the virus will be copied along with the programs. It's a catch 22 situation. Additionally, if an infected system is booted from a clean floppy, and then a CHKDSK/F is run, then all executable files in the system will be destroyed.

The virus is also a stealth virus. While it is active in memory it is difficult to detect. The Virus has been named DIR-2. It has been reported at numerous sites in Bulgaria, Poland, Yugoslavia and Hungary. The virus spreads more rapidly than any virus yet discovered.

We are currently re-writing our SCAN and CLEAN program to deal with this virus, as are most other anti-virus suppliers. A beta version of both programs will be available September 26th. Anyone reporting symptoms similar to the above described, please contact us.

John McAfee

Bullets and Ballots

By Ric French

Version 5.1 of WordPerfect provides several styles of graphical characters that you can use in bulleted lists or ballot-style questionnaires. Press Ctrl-V followed by one of the following keystroke combination for the appropriate effect.

- 4,0.....solid bullet
- 4,1.....empty bullet
- 4,3.....small solid bullet
- *0.....small empty bullet
- 4,2.....square bullet
- 4,38.....empty ballot box
- 4,46.....solid ballot box
- 5,24.....small empty ballot box
- 5,25.....small filled ballot box
- 5,23.....check mark

Your screen won't always display the character you're expecting, but even when your printer doesn't support the character set that contains a particular bullet, WordPerfect will reproduce it as a graphic.

Using Windows 3.0's System Configuration Editor

By Robert Kanies

You can set up an icon that will give you quick access to Windows 3.0's system configuration files, SYSTEM.INI, WIN.INI, CONFIG.SYS, and AUTOEXEC.BAT.

Load Program Manager and select a WINDOW FOR YOUR ICON.

Then select *File New Program item* OK. Choose *Browse* and navigate through your subdirectories to find and select the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM subdirectory.

Select *sysedit.exe*, type a description for your icon, and select OK. You can now select the icon whenever you need access to any of these files.

HRS Shareware Disks

By Gerry Bouchard

BREAKOUT	015
WORD FIND	049
ALDO	058
MAHJONGG VGA	062
MY ABC 123	107
RAD CAD	127
PRINTSHOP GRAPHIC 3	128
ONSHIDE .	076
WORLD CITY DISTANCE	080
ITALIAN TUTOR	093
HEBREW TUTOR	094
ABC FUN KEYS	106
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FIRST PUB CLIPART 1	136
15 10 12 2	137
15 10 12 3	138
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15 10 12 5	140
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PKZIP	599

The disks listed on this page are now available only in 5 1/4, but soon will be also in 3 1/2 format.

Until they are done if you desire any in the above list let me know and I will copy in 3 1/2 format.

If there is any disk you would like to see in the club library, and is not yet available, contact Gerry Bouchard or Ray Monette and let us know.

We will do our best to get it in the club library.

"Don't, or How to Care for Your Computer"

by Eric Clyde

This heading is the title of a book published a few years ago. While the contents are mostly familiar to experienced microcomputer users, the ideas are worth repeating for new users, who may want to consult the book at their public libraries.

GENERAL POINTS

Microcomputers are, in general, surprisingly reliable if certain precautions are taken.

- a) Non-portable computers should be kept on solid surfaces (e.g., not card tables), since mechanical shock and vibration can damage components and loosen boards, chips, etc., causing erratic operation.
- b) Proper ventilation is essential. Make sure that air intakes are kept clean and are not blocked. Overheating causes chips to fail early. As a general rule, if it is uncomfortably hot for you, it is too hot to be using the computer.
- c) The electrical outlet you plug your computer into should not be on the same circuit as any major appliances. For example, when the refrigerator turns on, an electrical surge can come down the line and cause problems. If you live in the country or suspect that you may have problems with the power lines, you would be advised to get a good surge protector. It's good insurance, wherever you live.
- d) Don't use your computer during a thunderstorm. Electrical surges can cause loss of data. Also disconnect your modem.
- e) Dust, smoke, and pollution can cause problems to many components.
- f) Keep coffee cups, etc., away from the computer, keyboard, disks, etc.

FLOPPY DISKS

- a) Handle floppy disks with respect for the data on them. Don't touch the disk surface or fold the disk.
- b) Don't expose them to dust, young children, smoke, spilled coffee, etc.
- c) Label disks clearly, but don't use hard tipped pens to write on the label.
- d) Don't leave disks lying around. Store them in a closed container.

- e) Avoid exposure to stray magnetic fields. Valuable data can easily be accidentally erased.
- f) From time to time, check the alignment of your drive, either by using special software or by checking that the disks you produce are readable on someone else's machine.

HARD DISKS

- a) Park the heads before switching off the machine.
- b) Avoid mechanical shock. Don't drop the computer, and don't move it without parking the heads first.
- c) For emergencies, make several bootable floppy disks. Then, if something horrible happens and you can't boot from your hard disk, you have a partial safety net.
- d) For safety, give your *COMMAND.COM* the read-only attribute. Then if you copy a bootable disk to your machine, you won't accidentally overwrite it.
- e) If you use software from other sources, be careful of your source and use virus protection software.

SOFTWARE

- a) Make backup copies of new software before you use it. Put the original in a safe place and use the backup.

DATA

(letters, reports, spreadsheets, etc.)

- a) If you are making changes to your files, save your work frequently.
- b) If you have made more than minor changes, save the changed file before you print it out or do extensive data manipulation.
- c) Try not to shut off or reset the computer in the middle of a program. Some of your files may be damaged.
- d) At the end of each session, backup at least the changed files from your hard disk to floppy disks (or, on floppy disk based systems, make a backup copy of your floppy disk).

I hope I haven't alarmed you. If you treat your computer well, it should be reliable for a long time. Happy computing.

Complete ANSI Color/Animation/Music Manual for Your Amiga

from Mystic BBS, Ottawa

Before learning about specific ways to send control codes to the ANSI/Amigados driver, you must first know what those codes mean. For the function keys, the codes are listed on the chart below.

CURSOR POSITIONING/MOVEMENT

- To move the cursor to a specified position:
ESC [#;#h where the first # is the desired line number and the second the desired column.
- To move the cursor up without changing columns:
ESC [#a where # specifies the number of lines moved.
- To move cursor to specified horizontal & vertical position:
ESC [#;#f where # means first the line number and secondly the column number.
- To get a cursor position report:
ESC [#;#r where the first # specifies the current line and the second # specifies the current column.
- To move the cursor down:
ESC [#b where # specifies the number of lines moved down.
- To move the cursor forward:
ESC [#C where # specifies the number of columns moved.
- To move the cursor backward:
ESC [#d where # specifies the number of columns moved.
- To save the cursor position:
ESC [s and to restore it: ESC [u.

ERASING SCREEN (cls) AND ERASING A LINE

- To do a CLS (erase screen move cursor to home position):
ESC [2J.
- To erase from cursor to end of line:
ESC [K.

ANSI COLOR GRAPHICS

- To set the color/graphics attributes:
ESC [#;#m where the first # is the desired foreground color and the second is the desired background color.
- Select colors from the list below:
(NOTE: The following Amiga colors were set with preference settings of blue, black, orange and white default colors.)

CODE US ANSI STANDARDS RESULT CODE AMIGA ANSI RESULT

30 Black foreground	30 Blue foreground (text)
31 Red foreground	31 White foreground (text)
32 Green foreground	32 Black foreground (text)
33 Yellow foreground	33 Orange foreground (text)
34 Blue foreground	34 Blue foreground (text)

35 Magenta foreground	35 White Foreground (text)
36 Cyan foreground	36 Black foreground (text)
37 White foreground	37 Orange foreground (text)
38 Unknown	38 Unknown
39 Unknown	39 Unknown
40 Black background	40 Blue background
41 Red background	41 White Background
42 Green background	42 Black background
43 Yellow background	43 Orange background
44 Blue background	44 Blue background
45 Magenta background	

THE COMPLETE ANSI COLOR/ANIMATION/MUSIC MANUAL FOR YOUR AMIGA from Mystic BBS, Ottawa

45 White background	
46 Cyan background	46 Black Background
47 White background	47 Orange background
48 Unknown	48 Unknown
49 Unknown	49 Unknown

NOTE: Please note that for both the foreground and background sections, the colors repeat after each four codes; ie: Blue text = 30 or 34; Blue background = 40 or 44. Also, as long as you know the escape code for the foreground color, the same color for background will be 10 numbers higher.

ADDITIONAL ANSI ATTRIBUTES

- To set additional attributes:
ESC [#m where # is the number of the desired attribute.
- Select attributes from the list below:
0 all attributes off (defaults to original Preferences settings)

IBM ESCAPE CODE	AMIGA RESULT
0 All ansi attributes off	0 All ansi attributes off
1 Bold on	1 BOLD ON
2 Unknown	2 Turns text black
3 Italics on	3 Italics on
4 Underscore	4 Underscore
5 Blink	5 Does NOT work on amiga
6 Unknown	6 Unknown
7 Reverse video	7 Reverse video
8 Invisible	8 Invisible

Upgrading to MS DOS 5.0

by Bill Schindler

The newest version of DOS, MS DOS 5.0, was released in mid-June. Our company got an evaluation copy. The problem with evaluating a new version of DOS is that you really have to commit to it. You can't just put it off in another directory and try it out at odd moments. You have to replace your current version of DOS and be subject to the new version's every whim. Outside of restoring from a backup, you're fully committed to the new version.

Checking It Out

I started out by installing DOS 5 to floppy disks. My system has over 150 MB of software on it, and I didn't know what would run and what wouldn't. I would boot from the floppy, add a program from my standard set-up, and play with parameters until that program would run correctly.

Altogether it took about six hours of re-booting from the floppy before I got everything working together: Quarterdeck's expanded memory manager (QEMM-386), the DESQview multitasking program, Novell network software, SCSI drivers, a mouse driver, 4DOS (a DOS command interpreter), and a scanner driver. I had to test all of my application programs to ensure they would work with DOS 5.0.

Getting Committed

Once I got everything working from the floppy-boot, I decided it was time to make a full commitment. Since I was upgrading from DOS 3.3, I decided to re-partition my hard disk as a single 317 MB drive, instead of keeping the older DOS's ten 32 MB drives. I backed up the drives to the network using Norton Backup. I copied Norton Backup and the network drivers to a diskette. I then re-partitioned the drive, put the DOS 5 installation disk in the A: drive and re-booted the system. (Re-partitioning destroys all the data on the hard drive.)

The installation program that comes with DOS 5 makes the whole process absolutely painless. It asks for verification of a couple of system parameters (the date and time, American keyboard), verifies that you like the directory it's going to put DOS in, and then it does everything but swap the diskettes.

Next I booted the system from the hard disk. It came up with no problem, so I copied Norton Backup and the network drivers back to the hard disk. I knew from using the floppy boot set-up that I had to run the new DOS command server to fool my network drivers into believing they're running under DOS 4.

I quickly had access to the network again and I restored all of my programs and data from my earlier backup, being careful not to overwrite any of the new DOS files with older ones.

Working With DOS 5.0

I've been living with DOS 5.0 for a few days now. The first thing I noticed was that I had more RAM available for programs to run in.

The next thing I noticed is that several DOS commands and some programs seem to run just a little faster. Windows 3.0 is noticeably faster.

Problems

So far, the only problem I've had is with Ventura Publisher. Ventura works fine until I try to edit a new chapter. It then freezes. The only work-around, currently, is to exit Ventura and then re-start it.

Edit A Code

By Judy Housman

WordPerfect's menu don't let you directly edit a figure option or a tab setting: They make you move to a current figure option, create a new one, then delete the old — three messy steps.

Fortunately, WordPerfect's keyboard definition macro enables you to edit the code under the cursor directly. To access this macro, press Shift-F1 for Setup, press 5 for Keyboard Layout, highlight Shortcut, then press 1 to Select. Press F7 to return to the document.

Now you can easily change the content of a footer, modify a figure option code, or edit any other code. Press Alt-F3 to reveal codes, position your cursor on the relevant code, and press Alt-E. You will be taken to the screen with the current setting for the given code ready to edit.

When you finish editing, press F7 to exit. The code with the old setting will be replaced by the code with the new settings you have chosen.

C64: A Review of Bridge 5.0 !

by Dan Faber

This is the 6th in a series of articles regarding the C64

You've just come home from work and your spouse yells to you, "how would you like to go over to the Smith's later and play some bridge?" or your friend, John, telephones just as you plop down to watch the news on tv, and says "there's a duplicate bridge tournament at the community hall at 7:30. How about being my partner tonight?". If you would like to play some bridge tonight, but not hassle yourself with travelling to the hall, meeting new people, or arguing with your partner after he/she trumps your one singleton ace, then read on.

With a C64 and a copy of Bridge 5.0, you can avoid all the hassles and still be competitive with reliable but quiet partners. This program provides a reactive partner and a pair of opposition players; what more can you ask for? Bridge 5.0, available from Artworx, is easy to use and can help teach you how to play a good game of bridge, as long as you have available a recent copy of Charles Goren or "The Joy of Bridge" by Audrey Grant and Eric Rodwell. What a nice hassle-free way to learn to play bridge!!

After loading the program, C64 users have a choice of three ways to play: 1) choose "play" and have four hands of cards dealt on the basis of a table of random numbers, 2) choose "south gets opening hand" (my personal favourite!) And be dealt a hand which has at least 13 high card/distribution points, or 3) choose "enter hand number" which allows you to select a hand at random or select one or more hands that you have previously played and enjoyed. For example, I have ten numbered hands that I try to play once a month. It's like playing my own games of duplicate bridge. After a month, I forget the bidding sequence, and each game is as new and exciting as the first time I played it.

After choosing one selection, the cards are "shuffled", "dealt", and "sorted" into suits. Then bidding begins. Your hand (south) is displayed and a bid can be made by typing a level and a suit on the keyboard, i.e., 2h is two hearts, 4nt is four no-trump, p is pass, etc. Bids may be doubled by entering d but not redoubled. Your partner responds to your bid on the basis of the points in the hand. If desired the computer will bid for you, by pressing the return key. West, North, East, and South are shown with their bids. It's fun (and illuminating) to bid the first time yourself, then let the computer bid the same hand the second time and compare the results. It's a learning experience for those of us who are novice players! I have noticed that Bridge 5.0 is programmed mainly for point bidding. Sometimes I am astonished when my partner (north) has eight or nine cards in one suit and continues to pass. It would be nice if a three-level,

pre-emptive opening bid by north could be programmed in for such hands.

During play, your hand (south) is displayed along with the dummy's hand on the table. The display will show the bid, the trick number, the current trick count for we and they, and the hand number. A play is made by typing a card on the keyboard, i.e., qh is queen of hearts, ts is ten of spades, etc. If east or west gets the contract, south can only play cards in south's hand; but if north or south gets the contract, south plays the cards in both the hands of south and north (dummy). As in bidding, the computer will play the cards if return is pressed. Bridge 5.0 will play the stayman convention after a one no-trump is bid by south. Also, the blackwood convention is played if south bids four no-trump at the appropriate time. On occasion the cards, for some reason, become mixed up after sorting and cards entered on the keyboard do not appear on the table (screen). I find it best to quit (qu) the hand, and begin over with another deal. Play continues until all the cards are played or by entering one of the following commands at your turn: qu - terminates hand, cl - ends play and awards all remaining tricks to we, or co - ends play and awards all remaining tricks to they.

After the hand has been played, it changes to a scoring screen. The score is automatically calculated and recorded. This can lead to difficulties in learning because beginners need to learn to score without help. I read on the box for Bridge 6.0 that duplicate mode or rubber mode can be chosen, which will eliminate this problem. After the scoring screen, a question, "display all hands?" appears; then the question, "replay hand xxx?", appears. By utilizing these commands, either duplicate or rubber bridge can be played, but the scoring is confusing with duplicate bridge.

The graphics of Bridge 5.0 are acceptable and easy to follow. I wholeheartedly recommend Bridge 5.0 to C64 owners as a fun game and especially to those who know something about cards and want to learn the fundamentals of contract bridge without feeling embarrassed. This is just one of many card games available to C64 users.

**Bridge 5.0, from Artworx
available at Computre centre stores
for \$37.95.**

Symantec's Norton Desktop

by Dominic Perello, Assistant Secretary, Atlanta PCUG

Norton Desktop for Windows [S149] was presented by Doak Adams, Systems Engineer of Symantec Corporation in Houston.

Symantec has been in business since 1982, developing (and acquiring) utility and application programs. This package represents their current collection of utilities to enhance Windows 3.0, bundled with a shell to integrate File Manager and Program Manager.

The Enhanced File Manager functions as the user interface, serving as a launch point for executing programs or performing file maintenance. Files (and subdirectories) can be viewed, moved, deleted, copied, etc., through a graphic interface. Files can be searched for attributes, filenames or extensions, text strings, etc., then listed, viewed, copied, changed, or subjected to user-defined actions (through batch files).

Data files can be linked to the parent programs that created them, allowing selection of a data file to call the associated program first. These associations don't require manual file editing, as a file is defined telling the system which file extensions go with which programs. Alternately, many data files can be viewed in their native format without the above step, limited to the 30 supported file formats (a selection of spreadsheets, databases, word processors, and common graphics formats). Files can be sent directly to a printer by dragging the file to the printer icon.

A Batch Builder package is supplied to assist in the creation of batch files. It includes online help and format suggestions. Icons can be user-defined using a library of 150-plus icons, an enlarged drawing tablet, and user input.

A limited version of the Norton Backup program is part of the package. A backup is user specified, based on which drives or files are to be backed up, where to back up to (another drive or into the network, but not a tape drive unless the system recognizes the tape by a drive letter), and when the backup is to occur (automatically if desired). The backup software has been optimized to use the DMA chip instead of the CPU when possible, allowing background operation of the backup process. Data compression is supported.

Files that have been erased can be uncrased any time later (some limitations apply), without the common requirement of guessing what the first letter of the filename was. Since you frequently intend for some files to stay erased when you erase them, a data shredder that meets DOD requirements is an option.

As with many programs of this complexity, the user interface and options available can be controlled through a setup process. System information is provided through charts and graphic representations, covering your system, memory usage, network data (only the Novell system is supported), etc.

Minimum system requirements are an AT (80286 and up) with 1MB RAM (3 MB recommended), MS-DOS 3.1, Windows 3.0, and a hard drive (4 MB required for the full installation). A mouse is recommended.

Symantec offers a 60-day satisfaction guarantee on their software.

Farewell to a Friend

by Ray Monette

This is a short note to a fellow member and a very good friend.

Lucien was the kind of person that was shy when he joined the Ottawa Home Computing Club in 87. We both took over the membership duties for a while. Lucien stayed in that position while I took over the C128 Librarian job. Lucien soon got the hang of the job and made it to the well organized way it is now.

He would take pride in what he did for the Club. He was always there to lend a helpful hand with the Club activities.

Lucien is the kind of guy that would tell you in a nice way that your membership was up for renewal. He would take the time to explain to the new members what the club consisted of and what you would get if you joined.

Lucien as been doing this job for the last 4 years, and I might had, we are sorry to see him go.

On behalf of the Executive and the members we thank you for all you have done for the Club and good luck to you and Norma in the big city of Sudbury and to your retirement.

Hope to keep in touch, thanks again.

PS. Hope there are a lot of golf courses down there to keep you busy (with your swing) in the summer and Norma will keep you busy in the winter.

Ha! Ha! Ha!

Membership Report-Jan.92

by Susan Greenberg

If your name appears on this list, please check with me, your membership chairperson. A one month grace period will be allowed, then your name will automatically be removed from the membership list. Membership standing is 208. Please renew now. Please bring a friend, we need new members.

91.12.01...Wood, Harry	91.12.02.. Paton, Bill
91.12.04...Ellis, Craig	91.12.05.. Morry, Christopher
91.12.06...Andrews, Rob	91.12.07.. Anderson, Alvin
91.12.09...Patterson, R.A.	91.12.10.. Walton, Jason
91.12.11...Bellmore, D.	91.12.12.. Turner, F. H. (Ted)
91.12.15...Albert, Wade	91.12.17.. Armstrong, Jim
91.12.18...Bourgault, Kevin	91.12.19.. Cessford, R. D.
91.12.20...Chouhan, Baljinder	91.12.21.. Cooper, B. Kipline
91.12.22...Cullum, Mark	91.12.23.. Edwards, George
91.12.24...Erskin, Thomas	91.12.25.. Glass, Alexis
91.12.26...Grant, Robert	91.12.27.. Harju, Jon
91.12.28...Humenuk, Gary	91.12.29.. Hurd, Scott W.
91.12.30...Jenkins, Ross	91.12.31.. Lapierre, Charles
91.12.32...MacDougall, R.	91.12.34.. Morgan, Christopher
91.12.35...Morrow, Rick	91.12.36.. Neuringer, Jeremy
91.12.37...Plante, Eric	91.12.39.. Routledge, Don
91.12.41...Thomas, Raymond	

92.01.01...Seguin, Pierre	92.01.02.. Armstrong, Tim
92.01.03Watson, Robert	92.01.04.. Vieckies, Roy
92.01.05...Dawson, Glenn	92.01.06.. Mayhew, Nicholas
92.01.07...Duffy, Stephen	92.01.08.. Campbell, W. F.
92.01.09...Smith, Alexander G.	92.01.10.. Sullivan, Walt
92.01.11...Zolmer, Doug W.	92.02.01.. Norton, John Reid
92.02.03...Radburne, George	92.02.04.. Card, Ron C.
92.02.05...Dupuis, Normand	92.02.06.. Berman, Dr. Jack
92.02.07...Gardner, Robert	92.02.08.. Bond, John

92.02.09.. De Chantel, Jean	92.02.10.. Chop, Larry
92.02.11.. Gauvreau, Jim	92.02.14 .. Christie, Robert
92.02.15.. Fillmore, Robert	92.02.16 .. Kaminski, Peter
92.02.17.. Lee, Godfrey	92.02.18 .. McOmmond, Russell
92.02.19.. Somers, Howard	92.02.20 .. Taillefer, Jean

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (N = New; R = Renewal)

12.17...Rocheleau, Ron (N)	12.18 ...Albert, Henry (N)
12.19...Kurdziel, Peter (N)	

Commentary

by Pierre Castricum

During the past year, the OHCC, like other clubs, has been experiencing some financial difficulties. Factors which have contributed to these difficulties include a decrease in membership, lower disk sales, and increased mailing costs due to the GST.

Various cost cutting measures have been adopted in order to provide the club with a better working environment. One of the above noted measures discussed at our last two executive meetings dealt with increasing membership dues. These have remained the same for the past four years.

Because of the increasing costs associated with running our club, a motion to increase membership dues from the present \$25.00 per year to \$30.00 per year was passed.

PLEASE NOTE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST, 1992, YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEES IN THE OTTAWA HOME COMPUTING CLUB WILL BE \$30.00 PER YEAR (FROM THE MONTH OF JOINING)

For those members who are renewing their membership, fees will remain at the \$25.00 level until February 1st, 1992 at which time fees will increase to \$30.00.

For additional information regarding memberships, please contact Susan Greenberg at 225-3698.

Postmaster:

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